(b) and (c) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide people with contamination free water. Much work has been done by the States to have alternative water supply source in areas affected by water quality problems.

The Department of Drinking Water Supply, under the Ministry of Rural Development, is rendering financial and technical assistance to the States for tackling water quality problems in rural areas on 75:25 funding pattern between Central Government and State Governments. With effect from 01.04.1998, powers have been delegated to the State Governments for sanctioning and implementings projects for tackling quality problem. 15% of financial assistance to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) have been earmarked for tackling quality problem.

Financial assistance for reclamation of water logged

4320. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals of State Governments seeking financial assistance for reclamation of water logged areas are pending with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for keeping the proposals pending; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central Government to clear those pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Clearance of Pench Vrihad project in Madhya Pradesh

*4321. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Pench Vrihad" project of Chhindwada district in Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Central Water Commission;

(b) if so, by when the clearance for investment in this project is likely to be granted;

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* Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.